

Coast Guard, DHS

§ 27.100

§ 26.30-1 Approved unicellular plastic foam work vests.

(a) Buoyant work vests carried under the permissive authority of this subpart shall be of an approved type, and shall be constructed, listed, and labeled in accordance with subpart 160.053 of subchapter Q (Specifications) of this chapter.

§ 26.30-5 Use.

(a) Approved buoyant work vests are considered to be items of safety apparel and may be carried aboard vessels to be worn by crew members when working near or over the water under favorable working conditions.

(b) When carried, approved buoyant work vests shall not be accepted in lieu of any portion of the required number of approved lifesaving appliances required by § 25.25-10 of this subchapter.

§ 26.30-10 Stowage.

(a) The approved buoyant work vests shall be stowed separately from the regular stowage of required lifesaving equipment.

PART 27—TOWING VESSELS

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SOURCE: USCG-2000-6931, 68 FR 22611, Apr. 29, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions for Fire-Protection Measures and Fire-Suppression Equipment on Towing Vessels

§ 27.100 What towing vessels does this part affect?

(a) You must comply with this part if your towing vessel operates on the navigable waters of the United States, unless your vessel is one exempt under paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) This part does not apply to you if your towing vessel is—

(1) Used solely within a limited geographic area, such as a fleeting-area for barges or a commercial facility, and used solely for restricted service, such as making up or breaking up larger tows;

(2) Used solely for harbor-assist;

(3) Used solely for assistance towing as defined by 46 CFR 10.103;

(4) Used solely for response to emergency or pollution;

(5) A public vessel that is both owned, or demise chartered, and operated by the United States Government or by a government of a foreign country; and that is not engaged in commercial service;

(6) A foreign vessel engaged in innocent passage;

(7) Pushing a barge ahead, or towing a barge alongside, when the barge's

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coastwise or Great Lakes route is restricted (as indicated on its certificate of inspection), so the barge may operate “in fair weather only, within 20 miles of shore,” or with words to that effect; or

(8) Exempted by the Captain of the Port (COTP).

(c) If you think your towing vessel should be exempt from the paragraph (b) requirements for a specified route, you should submit a written request to the appropriate COTP. The COTP will provide you with a written response granting or denying your request. The COTP will consider the extent to which unsafe conditions would result if your vessel lost propulsion because of a fire in the engine room.

(d) You must test and maintain all of the equipment required by this part in accordance with the attached nameplate or manufacturer’s approved design manual.

§ 27.101 Definitions.

As used in this part—

Accommodation includes any:

- (1) Messroom.
- (2) Lounge.
- (3) Sitting area.
- (4) Recreation room.
- (5) Quarters.
- (6) Toilet space.
- (7) Shower room.
- (8) Galley.
- (9) Berthing facility.
- (10) Clothing-changing room.

Engine room means the enclosed area where any main-propulsion engine is located. It comprises all deck levels within that area.

Fixed fire-extinguishing system means a carbon-dioxide system that satisfies 46 CFR subpart 76.15 and is approved by the Commandant; a manually-operated clean-agent system that satisfies the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 2001 (incorporated by reference in § 27.102) and is approved by the Commandant; or a manually-operated water-mist system that satisfies NFPA Standard 750 (incorporated by reference in § 27.102) and is approved by the Commandant.

Fleeting-area means a separate location where individual barges are moored or assembled to make a tow. The barges are not in transport, but

are temporarily marshaled, waiting for pickup by different vessels that will transport them to various destinations. A fleeting-area is a limited geographic area.

Harbor-assist means docking and undocking ships.

Limited geographic area means a local area of operation, usually within a single harbor or port. The local Captain of the Port (COTP) determines the definition of local geographic area for each zone.

Operating station means the principal steering station on the vessel from which the vessel is normally navigated.

Towing vessel means a commercial vessel engaged in, or intending to engage in, pulling, pushing, or hauling alongside, or any combination of pulling, pushing, or hauling alongside.

Towing vessel in inland service means a towing vessel that is not in ocean or coastal service.

Towing vessel in ocean or coastal service means a towing vessel that operates beyond the baseline of the U.S. territorial sea.

We means the United States Coast Guard.

Work space means any area on the vessel where the crew could be present while on duty and performing their assigned tasks.

You means the owner of a towing vessel, unless otherwise specified.

§ 27.102 Incorporation by reference.

(a) Certain material is incorporated by reference into this part with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register—in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. To enforce any edition other than that specified in paragraph (b) of this section, the Coast Guard must publish notice of the change in the FEDERAL REGISTER and make the material available for inspection. All approved material is available at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street NW., suite 700, Washington, DC 20001, and at the U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Design and Engineering Standards (G-MSE), 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001 and is available from the sources indicated in paragraph (b) of this section.